


## Target Quarterly Report

### Target 3 – Reduced child and youth offending

15% reduction in the total number of children and young people with serious and persistent offending behaviour.

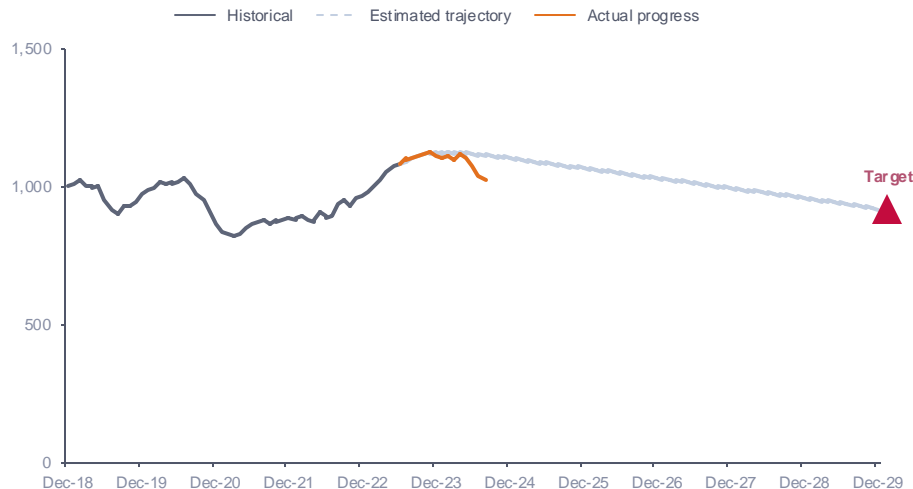
Quarter ending  
30 September 2024

#### Current Target Performance

Status	Target (December 2029)	Current performance (August 2024)	Change vs last quarter
	15% reduction (919)	1,023	-95

#### Trajectory towards target

Total number of children and young people with serious and persistent offending behaviour



#### What are the key issues and risks?

There is a risk that the **Military-Style Academy** community component may not be effective if the young people are not adequately supported to transition from the residential phase. This is being managed by ensuring that each young person and whānau has a transition plan, a dedicated initial intensive mentor, a 12-week hourly structured programme for the community and kit-bags with practical elements to support transition to the community.

There is a risk that if agencies **efforts to address Government targets** aren't aligned, there may be trade-offs made or gaps created that negatively impact children and young people, particularly those in care. This is being managed by utilising the National Delivery Group to ensure agency responses are effectively integrated and by Oranga Tamariki working with other agencies to ensure children and young people are a central priority.

*Definition: Serious and persistent offending behaviour is when three or more distinct offending events have occurred within 12 months for an individual, where at least one of the offences committed has a maximum penalty greater than or equal to 7 years imprisonment.*

#### Action and Insights

##### What is driving changes in performance vs. last quarter?

The decrease of 95 between the previous and current quarters indicates that the inflows of child and youth offenders is reducing quickly. The main drivers of this are anticipated to be the initiatives underway within regions, specifically the more immediate responses to offending between Oranga Tamariki and Police. There is some volatility in numbers and a risk that these may increase over the summer period.

##### What is the progress of key initiatives that support target delivery?

###### Strengthening the system settings to respond to serious and persistent child and youth offending:

- **Military-style Academy** - pilot commenced 29 July 2024; preparation underway for community phase to commence on week commencing 21 October 2024.
- **Oranga Tamariki (Responding to Serious Youth Offending) Bill** – on track to be considered by Cabinet on 18 November 2024.
- **Children aged 10-13 with offending behaviour** – policy advice provided to Ministers, proposal seeking agreement to do targeted consultation to be considered by Cabinet in December 2024.

###### Improving operational responses and youth justice processes to better target those who are offending:

- Three **intensive response teams** in Canterbury and across Waikato and Bay of Plenty – to be operational by late 2024.
- A new **risk assessment tool** and process developed to improve youth justice practice and be utilised by the intensive response teams - expected to be rolled out in early 2025.
- Work underway with Police to extend **Fast Track** to work with 14-17-year-olds – procurement underway for six additional sites by December 2024.
- **Youth Justice processes** - refreshed guidance, policies and templates to be completed by November 2024.

###### Preventing offending and re-offending through a locally-led, regionally-enabled approach focused on the four priority regions.

- Deputy Chief Executive-led **National Delivery Group** – who are responsible for leading the implementation of delivery plan initiatives and provide support, direction and ensure agency responses are effectively integrated.
- **Regional Action Plans** – to be developed for each region, focussed on creating an integrated plan of community-based cross-agency responses with intensive case management by December 2024.
- **Gateway Redesign** – to improve health, disability and education outcomes for children and young people in contact with Oranga Tamariki. Advice to Ministers on proposed detailed service design, and options for implementation and funding, due late October 2024, with decisions from Ministers expected in November 2024.

##### What decisions and actions are required from Ministers?

- Cabinet decisions on the proposed **Oranga Tamariki (Responding to Serious Youth Offending) Bill** – 18 November 2024.
- **Gateway Redesign** – Ministerial decisions regarding detail service design, options for implementation and funding - November 2024.

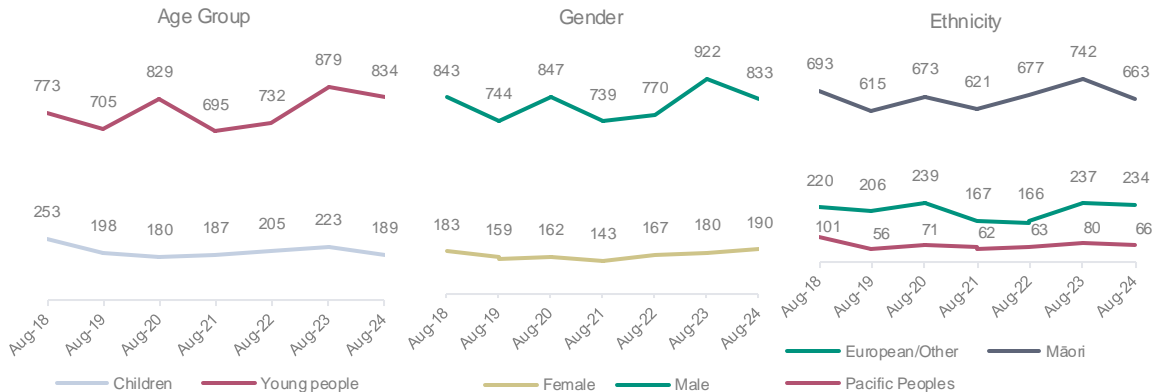
### Target 3 Supporting Indicators

The cohort this target focusses on are most likely to be aged 14-17, Māori, and male. The Police Districts with the largest volumes of children and young people with serious and persistent offending behaviour are Bay of Plenty, Counties Manukau, Canterbury, and Waikato. The upward trajectory in this indicator from the baseline of 1,081 in the 12-months to June 2023 has turned, with numbers now decreasing. However, different regions or Police Districts are experiencing this differently.

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#### Target Breakdown

##### Demographic Breakdown



Young people (aged 14-17) make up over 80% of this cohort. A recent decrease has occurred for both children and young people. *Source: Police data.*

Males make up over 80% of this cohort. A recent decrease has occurred for males, but numbers for females increased. *Source: Police data.*

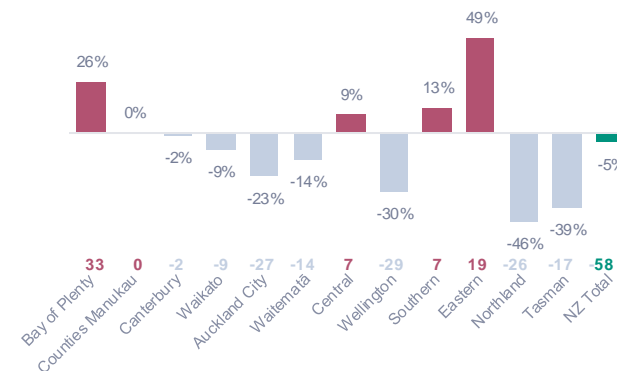
This cohort is mostly Māori (65%). A recent decrease has occurred for all three ethnicity groups, but most significantly for Māori. *Source: Police data.*

##### Geographic Breakdown

Total number of children and young people with serious and persistent offending behaviour, in 12 months to August 2024, by Police District  
*(Arrow shows direction of change since previous quarter)*



% change since June 2023 (baseline) of children and young people with serious and persistent offending behaviour, by Police District  
*(Change in number since June 23 shown below the graph)*

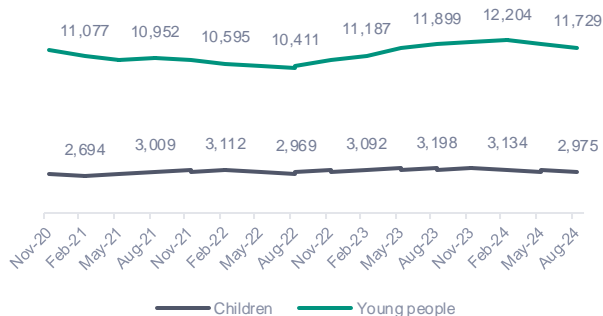


Bay of Plenty, Counties Manukau, Canterbury and Waikato are the four districts with the largest numbers of children and young people with serious and persistent offending behaviour. Tāmaki Makaurau (combining Auckland City, Counties Manukau and Waitematā) has a total of 313. Comparing the percentage change since June 2023 (baseline) to August 2024, we can see that Eastern and Bay of Plenty have seen the largest % increases, with Northland, Tasman, Wellington, and Auckland City seeing the largest % decreases. An intensive response team is being established in Rotorua to address the serious and persistent offending in the Bay of Plenty. *Source: Police data.*

#### Supporting Indicators

##### Police Proceedings

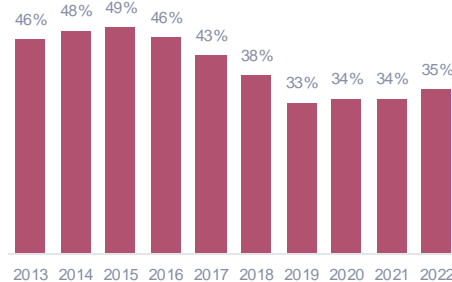
Number of Police proceedings against children and young people



The number of Police proceedings relating to children has remained relatively steady around 3,000 per 12-month period. There are significantly more proceedings against young people, and while these have increased since July 2022, numbers are now decreasing. *Source: Police data.*

##### Reoffending

Percentage of young people who reoffended within 12 months



This data suggests a small increase in 12-month reoffending rates since 2019. However, there is a time-lag in such data. *Source: Ministry of Justice. Data relates to young people (aged 14-16 up to July 2019, and aged 14-17 thereafter) dealt with in the Youth Court proven in any court to have reoffended within 12 months.*